

# **CITY-COUNTY PARKS BOARD**

## **MINUTES**

**August 6, 2014**

**CentennialPark**

**CALL TO ORDER**

11:34 P.M.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Pat Doyle, Dave Payne, M.C. Beeby, John Carter, Dennis Peterson. Jane Kollmeyer was excused. Melissa Lewis was absent.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Andres Haladay

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**

Craig Marr, Amy Teegarden, Liz Jones, Carol Kirkland, George Thebarger, Lindsay Morgan, Matt Heiml, Lt. Tim Coleman

**ESTABLISH QUORUM AND REVIEW OF AGENDA**

A quorum was present.

**CONSENT ACTION ITEMS**

The July 2, 2014, minutes were approved as presented.

**COMMENTS FROM PERSONS PRESENT** - Jon Rush commented about people speeding through the YMCA parking lot. Amy noted that the parks department is already meeting with city engineering and the YMCA about the problem. Mike Hiel commented about the garbage every day in the Memorial Park parking lot. Stacy Sommer noted there is bullying at the skatepark. Amy noted the skate academy on Wednesday evenings is one way of addressing the problem. Andres noted that a lot of the funding that would be used for some of the safety issues is no longer available and ties in with the proposal to create a non-motorized transportation district to make up for some of that loss.

**PRESENTATIONS** - Peanut Park proposal: Amy gave background on the discovery that the park (across from Hawthorne School) was indeed a city park the school district has been maintaining. She noted Mike Hiel of Gardenwerks came to the parks department with a proposal to redevelop the park. Public comments provided good information for a decision. Mike gave background on his proposed conceptual plan for the park. Amy noted comments indicated the park should remain close to its historic use with the exception of removing unsafe play equipment. She indicated parks would be discussing the proposal further with Mike. Barbara Rush commented that she was not in favor of any of the proposed changes. Jon Rush commented that he was not in favor of the proposed changes. Amy said she and the parks superintendent would meet again with Mike Hiel and bring back information to

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the Parks Board. Amy indicated she would let Barbara know when the meeting with Mike Hiel would be.

Park congregation issues: Amy gave background on the gathering issues at Memorial Park this year including trash, bullying, and vandalism among others. There have been ongoing discussions of potential solutions. Lt. Coleman gave background on some of the issues his officers contend with and noted that some in the group are quite aggressive. The police goal is to keep people safe. Craig noted the parks department is discussing some ideas about how to deal with the congregating issues.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS** Standing Items: proposed regional park district: Amy passed out a report on Phase II planning to be discussed at the September meeting with a joint meeting of all the entities in October. Tobacco-free park update (Centennial Park): Amy asked what the Parks Board would need to make a recommendation at the September meeting. Karen Lane of the City-County Health Department reported surveys have been done, but she would like to do more surveying before reporting the assessment at the next Parks Board meeting. Amy noted the Parks Board will be asked to make a recommendation to the city commission about whether to continue the Centennial Park tobacco-free designation and/or expand to other city parks or systems. Karen noted the YMCA campers will be doing park pickups at both Centennial and Memorial parks, and she will report their findings.

**ACTION ITEMS** - Motion to approve, table, deny recommending to the county commission a proposal to dedicate a park and trail easements, construct trails, and make a cash payment for the 46<sup>0</sup> North Subdivision: Lindsay reviewed the subdivision proposal and noted that 4.33 acres would be required for parkland dedication. A preliminary market analysis indicates an acre is valued at \$7000, but a market-based appraisal would be required for parkland dedication when the final plat is filed. After extensive discussion of the park's lack of access roads and what would happen to the parkland if the developer's proposal was not accepted, **John moved and Denny seconded a motion that the board recommend accepting cash in lieu of parkland. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

#### **REPORTS**

CITY - Amy reported an excellent celebration for the Mountain View Park dedication.

COUNTY - (could not make out George's comments over the locomotive noise)

HOLMAC - none

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LINCOLN - Denny met with the county commissioners about the danger of the fireworks in Hooper Park and the mess they leave. The commissioners inspected the bathrooms and indicated the commission would try to work on upgrading those. The park has been extremely busy. He also reported the Double Divide Graffiti ride left all kinds of painted graffiti on the road after promising they would use chalk.

RECREATION - Liz reported all of the programs have been going well and especially the skate academy at the skate park. There is also going to be a mentoring program at the bike park.

MAINTENANCE - Craig noted there continue to be irrigation system problems, and work continues on the bike park.

FAIR BOARD - Dave reported there was no meeting last month because of the stampede.

PLAYABLE PLAYGROUND - Stacy reported there will be a playground build in East Helena at the Main Street Park

SCHOOL DISTRICT - John reported school starts August 27.

BIKE HELENA - Pat reported another article in a bike magazine and another coming in "Bike" magazine. The shuttle is going well.

OTHER -

**COMMUNICATIONS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (BOARD MEMBERS)**

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE:** September 3, 2014

**FUTURE DISCUSSION ITEMS:** tobacco-free assessment report;  
La Casa Grande park playground

**ADJOURN** - 1:08 P.M.

Carol Kirkland  
Recorder